To: 3 BADGE BEVERAGE CORPORATION (dranit@smlaw.com) **Subject:** U.S. TRADEMARK APPLICATION NO. 86549026 - 3 BADGE BEVERAGE CORPORATION - 8443 -Request for Reconsideration Denied - Return to TTAB Sent: 5/25/2016 3:48:40 PM Sent As: ECOM112@USPTO.GOV **Attachments:** Attachment - 1 Attachment - 2 Attachment - 3 Attachment - 4 Attachment - 5 Attachment - 6 Attachment - 7 Attachment - 8 Attachment - 9 Attachment - 10 Attachment - 11 Attachment - 12 Attachment - 13 Attachment - 14 Attachment - 15 Attachment - 16 Attachment - 17 Attachment - 18 Attachment - 19 Attachment - 20 Attachment - 21 Attachment - 22 Attachment - 23 Attachment - 24 Attachment - 25 Attachment - 26 Attachment - 27 Attachment - 28 Attachment - 29 Attachment - 30 Attachment - 31 Attachment - 32 Attachment - 33 Attachment - 34

# UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE (USPTO)

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OFFICE ACTION (OFFICIAL LETTER) ABOUT APPLICANT'S TRADEMARK APPLICATION

U.S. APPLICATION SERIAL NO. 86549026

MARK: 3 BADGE BEVERAGE CORPORATION

CORRESPONDENT ADDRESS:

WARREN L. DRANIT SPAULDING MCCULLOUGH & TANSIL LLP 90 S E ST STE 200 SANTA ROSA, CA 95404-6500

APPLICANT: 3 BADGE BEVERAGE CORPORATION

CORRESPONDENT'S REFERENCE/DOCKET NO:

844

CORRESPONDENT E-MAIL ADDRESS:

dranit@smlaw.com

\*86549026\*

GENERAL TRADEMARK INFORMATION:

http://www.uspto.gov/trademarks/index.jsp

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# REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERATION DENIED

**ISSUE/MAILING DATE: 5/25/2016** 

The trademark examining attorney has carefully reviewed applicant's request for reconsideration and is denying the request for the reasons stated below. *See* 37 C.F.R. §2.63(b)(3); TMEP §§715.03(a)(ii)(B), 715.04(a). The following refusal made final in the Office action dated November 23, 2015 is **maintained and continue to be final**: Section 2(d) likelihood of confusion with respect to U.S. Registration No. 3713723. *See* TMEP §§715.03(a)(ii)(B), 715.04(a).

In the present case, applicant's request has not resolved all the outstanding issue(s), nor does it raise a new issue or provide any new or compelling evidence with regard to the outstanding issue(s) in the final Office action. In addition, applicant's analysis and arguments are not persuasive nor do they shed new light on the issues.

Specifically, the examining attorney remains of the opinion that the marks are highly similar in that they share the common arbitrary wording "BADGE" which constitutes the entirety of the registrant's. Moreover, incorporating the entirety of one mark within another does not obviate the similarity between the compared marks, as in the present case, nor does it overcome a likelihood of confusion under Section 2(d). *See Wella Corp. v. Cal. Concept Corp.*, 558 F.2d 1019, 1022, 194 USPQ 419, 422 (C.C.P.A. 1977) (finding CALIFORNIA CONCEPT and surfer design and CONCEPT confusingly similar); *Coca-Cola Bottling Co. v. Jos. E. Seagram & Sons, Inc.*, 526 F.2d 556, 557, 188 USPQ 105, 106 (C.C.P.A. 1975) (finding BENGAL and BENGAL LANCER and design confusingly similar); *Hunter Indus., Inc. v. Toro Co.*, 110 USPQ2D 1651, 1660-61 (TTAB 2014) (finding PRECISION and PRECISION DISTRIBUTION CONTROL confusingly similar); TMEP §1207.01(b)(iii). In the present case, the marks are identical in part.

Applicant has argued that its mark includes additional matter. However, when comparing marks, the test is not whether the marks can be distinguished in a side-by-side comparison, but rather whether the marks are sufficiently similar in terms of their overall commercial impression that confusion as to the source of the goods and/or services offered under the respective marks is likely to result. *Midwestern Pet Foods, Inc. v. Societe des Produits Nestle S.A.*, 685 F.3d 1046, 1053, 103 USPQ2d 1435, 1440 (Fed. Cir. 2012); *In re Bay State Brewing Co.*, 117 USPQ2d 1958, 1960 (TTAB 2016) (quoting *Coach Servs., Inc. v. Truimph Learning LLC*, 668 F.3d 1356, 1368, 101 USPQ2d 1713, 1721 (Fed. Cir. 2012)); TMEP §1207.01(b). The proper focus is on the recollection of the average purchaser, who retains a general rather than specific impression of trademarks. *In re Bay State Brewing Co.*, 117 USPQ2d at 1960 ( (citing *Spoons Rests., Inc., v. Morrison, Inc.*, 23 USPQ2d 1735, 1741 (TTAB 1991), *aff'd per curiam*, 972 F.2d 1353 (Fed. Cir. 1992)); *In re C.H. Hanson Co.*, 116 USPQ2d 1351, 1353 (TTAB 2015) (citing *Joel Gott Wines LLC v. Rehoboth Von Gott Inc.*, 107 USPQ2d 1424, 1430 (TTAB 2013)); TMEP §1207.01(b).

Even though marks must be compared in their entireties and should not be dissected; a trademark examining attorney may weigh the individual components of a mark to determine its overall commercial impression. *Stone Lion Capital Partners, LP v. Lion Capital LLP*, 746 F.3d 1317, 1322, 110 USPQ2d 1157, 1161 (Fed. Cir. 2014) ("[Regarding the issue of confusion,] there is nothing improper in stating that . . . more or less weight has been given to a particular feature of a mark, provided the ultimate conclusion rests on consideration of the marks in their entireties.") (quoting *In re Nat'l Data Corp.*, 753 F.2d 1056, 1058, 224 USPQ 749, 751 (Fed. Cir. 1985))).

Applicant also argued the presence of other marks on the register. This argument is unpersuasive. Prior decisions and actions of other trademark examining attorneys in registering other marks have little evidentiary value and are not binding upon the USPTO or the Trademark Trial and Appeal Board. TMEP §1207.01(d)(vi); see In re Midwest Gaming & Entm't LLC, 106 USPQ2d 1163, 1165 n.3 (TTAB 2013) (citing In re Nett Designs, Inc., 236 F.3d 1339, 1342, 57 USPQ2d 1564, 1566 (Fed. Cir. 2001)). Each case is decided on its own facts, and each mark stands on its own merits. See AMF Inc. v. Am. Leisure Prods., Inc., 474 F.2d 1403, 1406, 177 USPQ 268, 269 (C.C.P.A. 1973); In re Binion, 93

## USPQ2d 1531, 1536 (TTAB 2009).

The trademark examining attorney maintains that the parties offer identical and/or closely related alcoholic beverages. Please see attached additional Internet evidence which consists of excerpts from the websites of wineries and breweries offering both wines and beers for sale and/or wines and other alcoholic beverages for sale. This evidence establishes that the same entity commonly manufactures the relevant goods and markets the goods under the same mark, the relevant goods are sold or provided through the same trade channels and used by the same classes of consumers in the same fields of use and the goods are similar or complementary in terms of purpose or function. Therefore, applicant's and registrant's goods are considered related for likelihood of confusion purposes. *See, e.g., In re Davey Prods. Pty Ltd.*, 92 USPQ2d 1198, 1202-04 (TTAB 2009); *In re Toshiba Med. Sys. Corp.*, 91 USPQ2d 1266, 1268-69, 1271-72 (TTAB 2009).

Thus, because the marks are confusingly similar and the goods are identical and/or closely related, consumers encountering these goods are likely to mistakenly believe that they are provided by a common source. Accordingly, the request for reconsideration is denied and the final refusal to register pursuant to Section 2(d) of the Trademark Act is maintained and continued.

If applicant has already filed a timely notice of appeal with the Trademark Trial and Appeal Board, the Board will be notified to resume the appeal. *See* TMEP §715.04(a).

If no appeal has been filed and time remains in the six-month response period to the final Office action, applicant has the remainder of the response period to (1) comply with and/or overcome any outstanding final requirement(s) and/or refusal(s), and/or (2) file a notice of appeal to the Board. TMEP §715.03(a)(ii)(B); see 37 C.F.R. §2.63(b)(1)-(3). The filing of a request for reconsideration does not stay or extend the time for filing an appeal. 37 C.F.R. §2.63(b)(3); see TMEP §§715.03, 715.03(a)(ii)(B), (c).

/Hai-Ly Lam/ Hai-Ly Lam Trademark Examining Attorney Law Office 112 Telephone: (571) 272-3354

Email: hai.lam@uspto.gov

# **MICROBREWERY**

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Chi Chi's Pilsner
A light, dry beer that is finished with just the right amount of hopiness. Refreshingly crisp.

Kirly's Cream Ale

An ale version of an American lager style. Clean, light, with a vanilla finish.

Naughty Ale
An India Pale Ale that has plenty of hops! From
the bittering, to the flavoring, to the aroma hops,
we've created a beer that is clean and
crisp! Enjoy hop fams!!

Bella's Big Belgian
A strong ale, copper colored that is loaded with
malts. Hints of molasses and spicy aromas.

Chubby Stout
A dark frish ale with full body and flavor and a
creamy head of foam from the added
Maltodextrin. Dark malts and grains prove huge

## Nate's Tripel

Our Tripel contains light Belgian Candi sugar to create a high gravity beer that is golden in color with a creamy white head. The hops create a mild, spicy character.

### Kiss This Kolsch

Crisp, clean, and easy to drink. Coloring is a straw yellow, but it's flavors are light, clean and crisp. A definite thirst quencher!

Our beer selections change throughout the year....let us know what your favorite is!



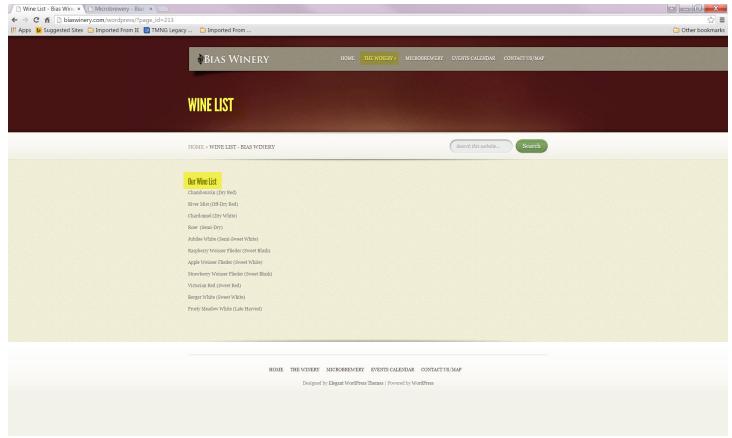
Gruhlke is a gnome who moved from Germany to the hill at Bias Vineyards & Winery in 1998. Gnomes, as you may know, live underground with their buried treasures. Gruhlke's treasure is secret formulas for great microbrewed beer. Gruhlke has agreed to share his secret formulas and assist with the beer brewing in exchange for naming the microbrewery after him. With the addition of Gruhlke's Microbrewery, Bias became the first in Missouri, second in the nation, to operate as a Winery and Microbrewery combined.

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# **BLACK STAR FARMS**

WINERY TASTING INN DINING EVENT PLANNING THE FARM ABOUT BLOG Q

## BLACK STAR FARMS DISTILLERY

Black Star Farms is located in the Grand Traverse Bay area of Northern Michigan. This region is justly known for fruit cultivation fostered by glacially carved lakes and hills and a climate tempered by Lake Michigan. Our small specially distillery operation began in 1999 on our farm in Suttons Bay. In 2007 we moved the still to our Old Mission facility, and we began production of brandies again in 2009.

Our fruit-based brandies capture the essence of northern Michigan fruit. They are generally known as eau de vie-style spirits. Eau de vie is French for "vater of life". The spirits are clear and represent the pure essence of fermented fruit. The balance of fruit and alcohol reflects both the arisan skill of the distiller and the quality of the fruit. We produce brandies from local cherries, apricots, pears, plume, raspberries and grapes. We also produce a barrel-aged apple brandy that is aged for three to five years, using both French and American oak. At the precise time the distiller feels is optimum to showcase the "spirit" of the fruit, the brandy is bottled - often a single barrel at a time, or in very small lots.

Our spirits can be sampled at any of our three tasting rooms in the Grand Traverse Bay region. Truly artisan-based products, our eaux de vie are an exquisite balance of fruit and alcohol that capture the essence of prime ripe fruit from our little corner of northern Michigan.

We regret that our brandies are not available for online ordering. You may purchase through select retailers and in our <u>tasting rooms</u>.

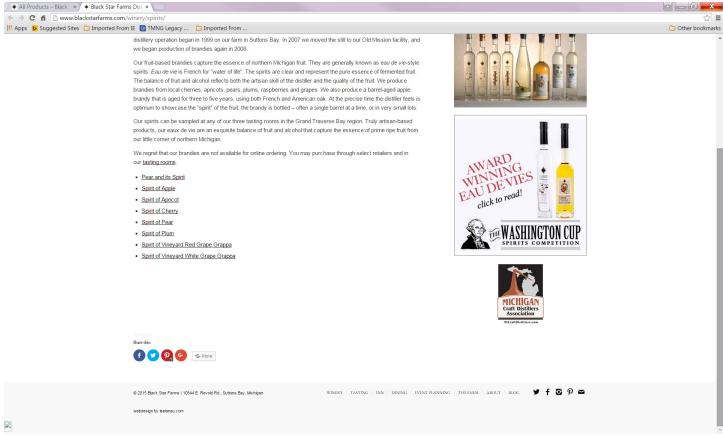
- Pear and its Spirit
- Spirit of Apple
- Spirit of Apric ot
- Spirit of Cherry
- . Spirit of Pear
- Spirit of Plum
- Spirit of Vineyard Red Grape Grappa
- . Spirit of Vineyard White Grape Grappa



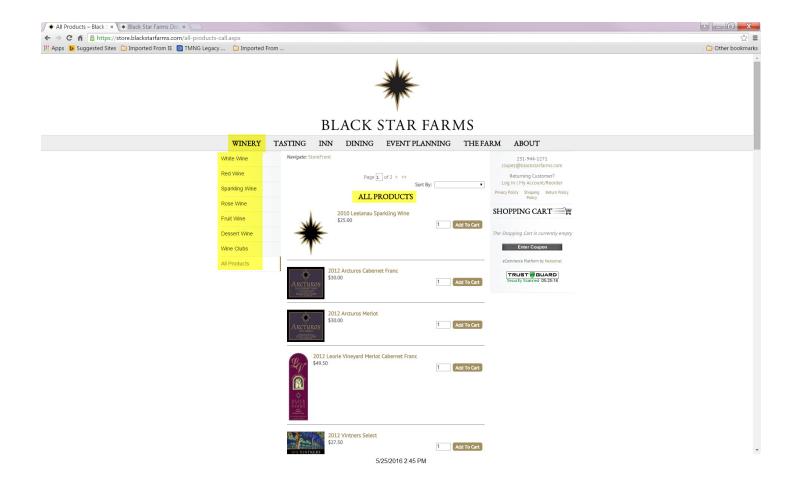


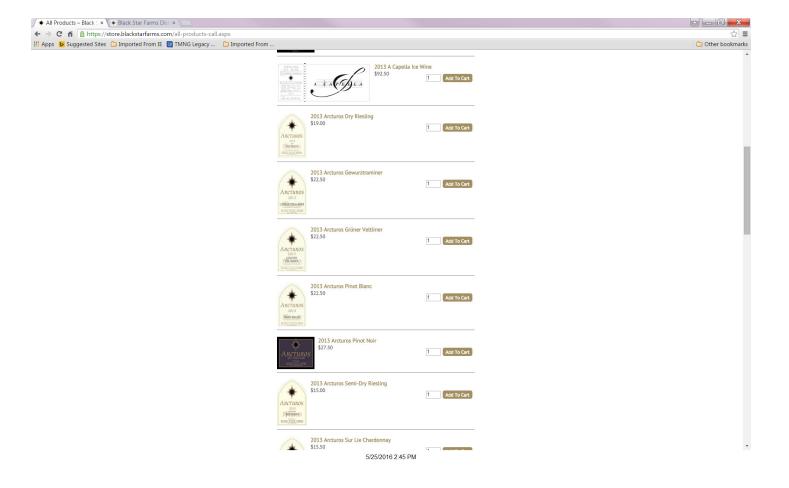


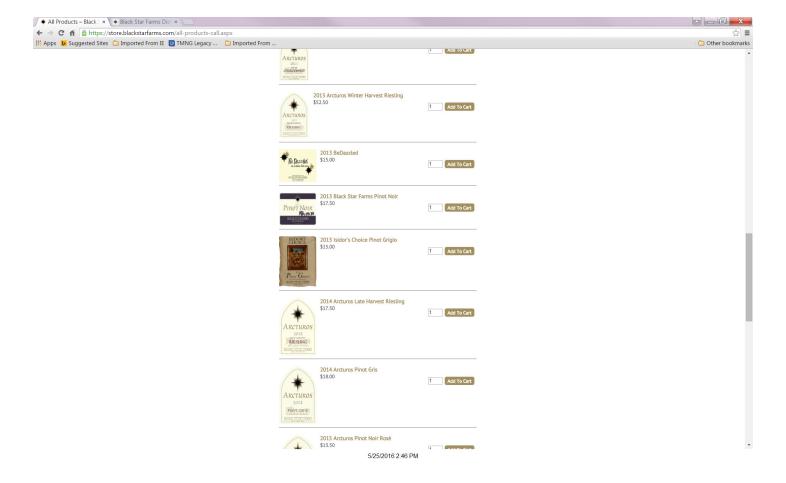
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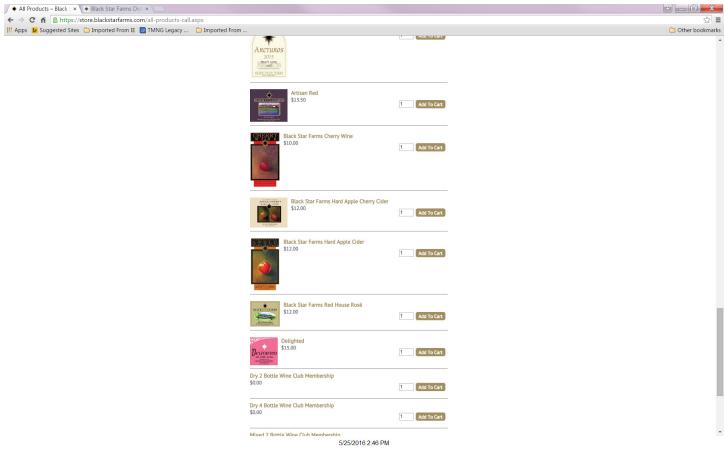


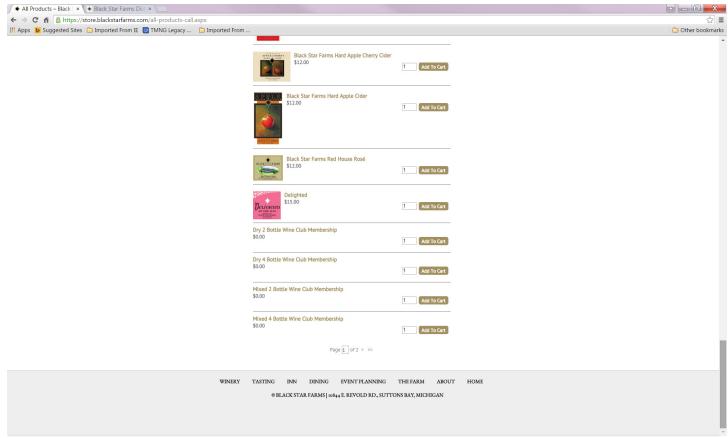
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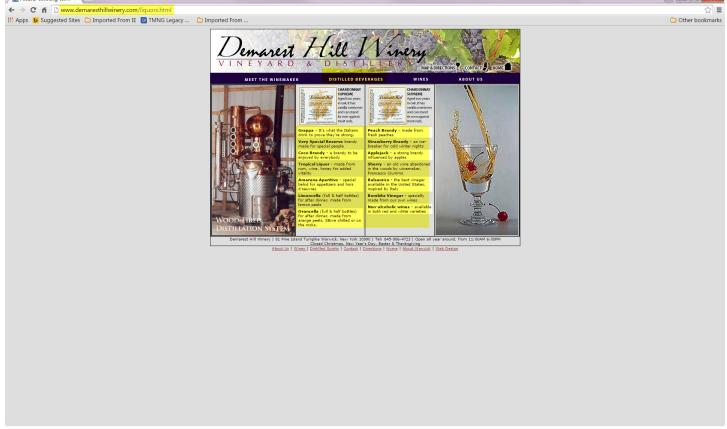




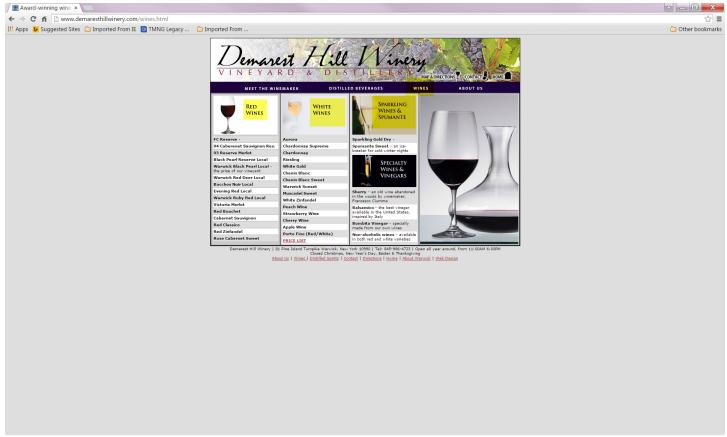


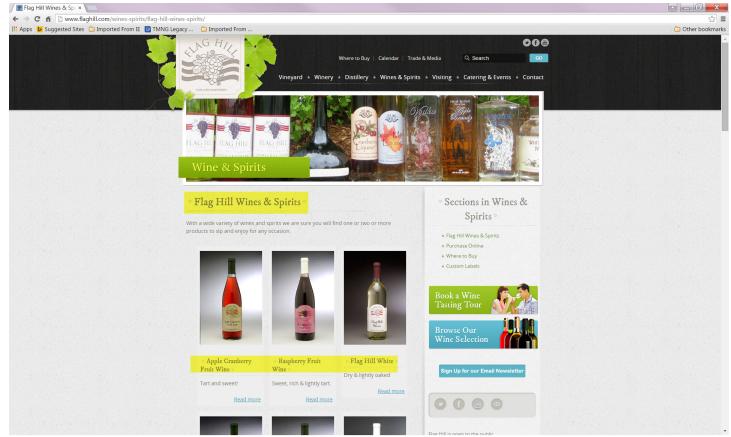


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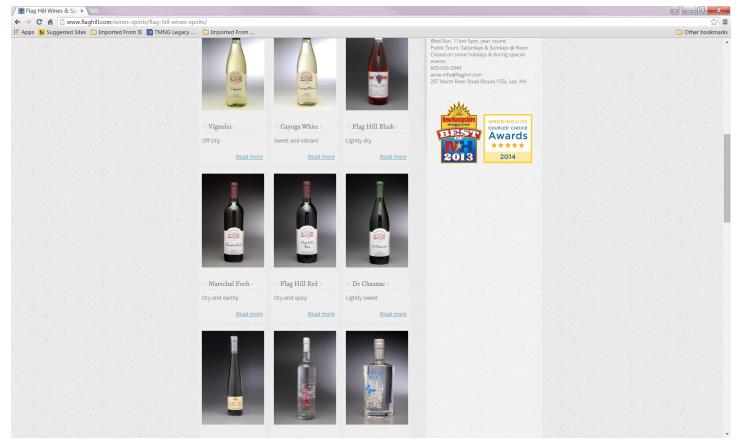


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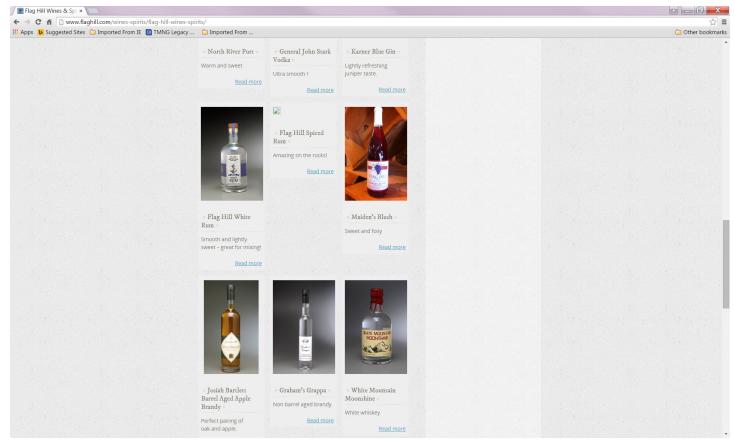




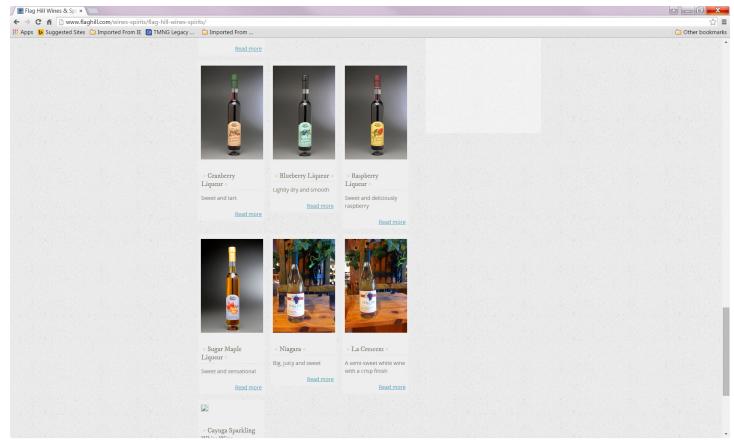
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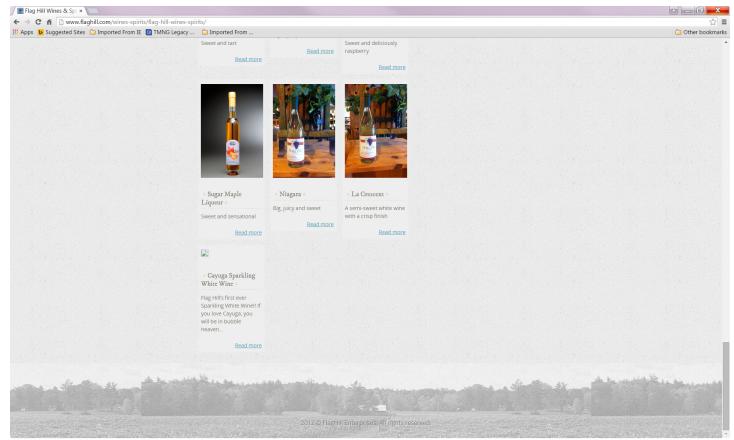
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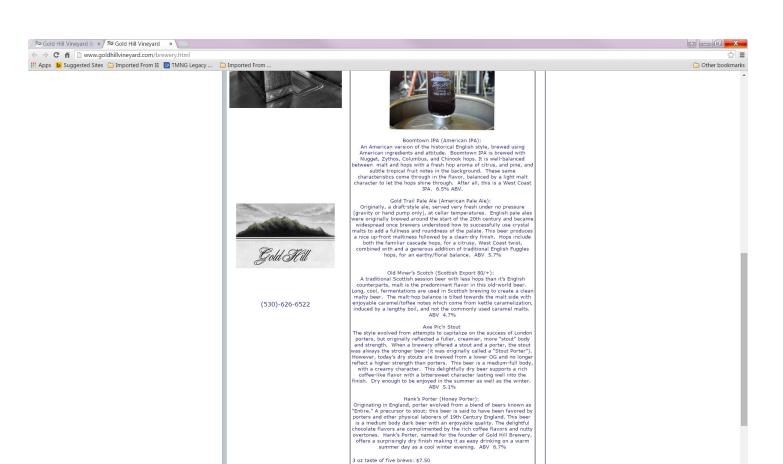
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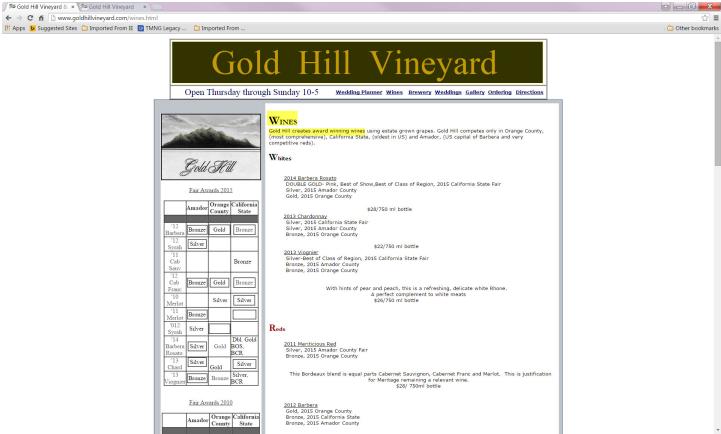
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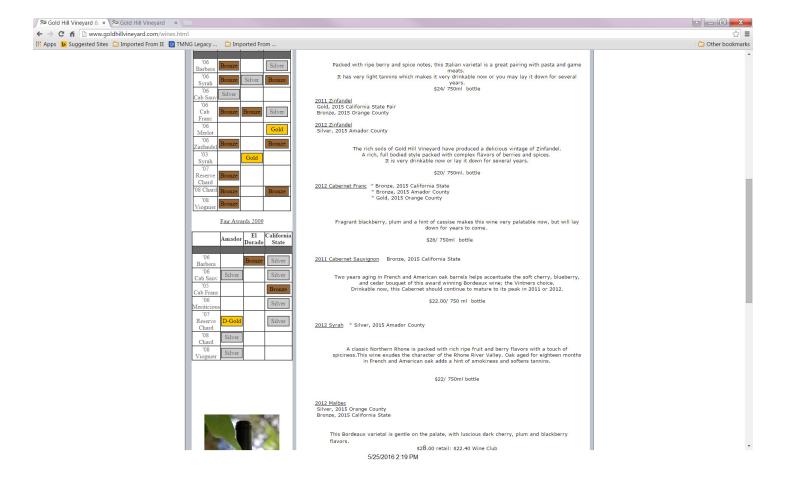
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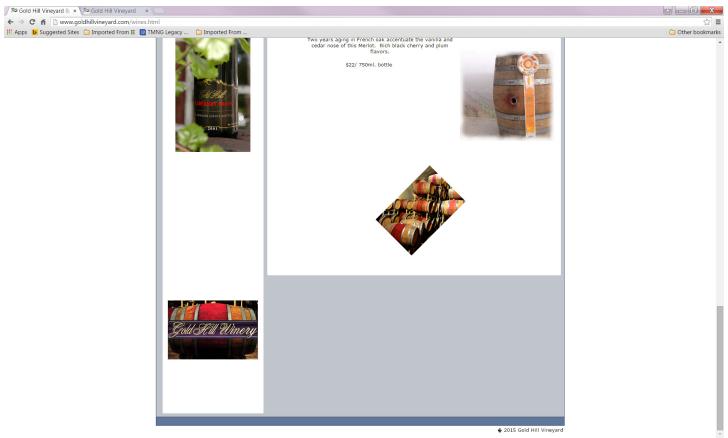


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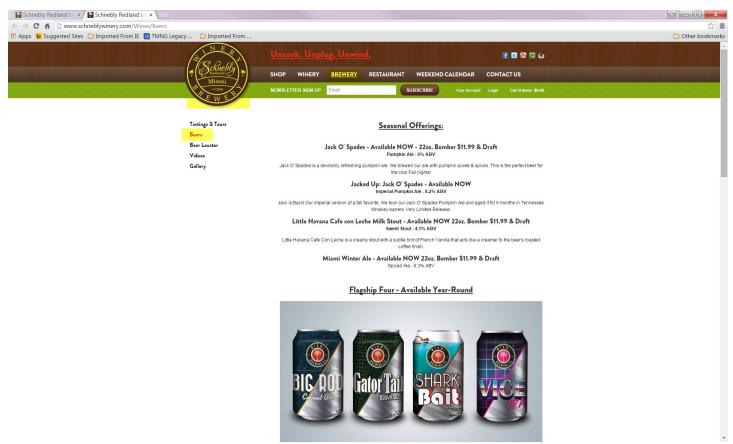




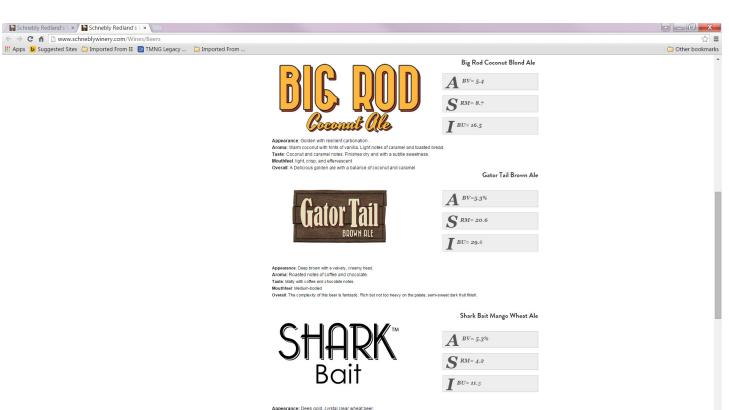
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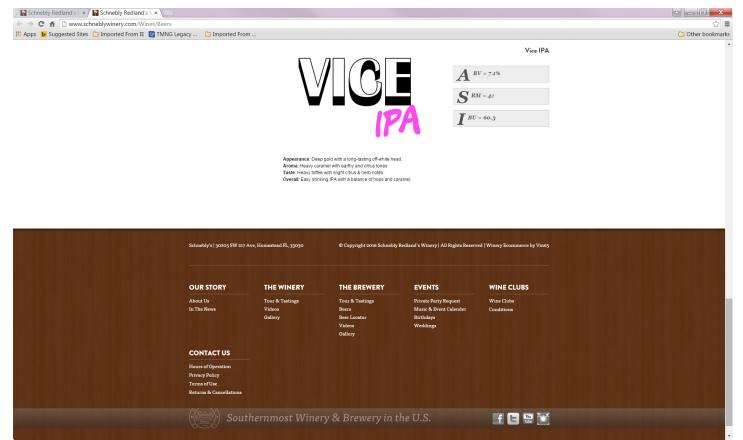
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Appearance: Deep gold, cyrstal clear wheat beer,
Aroma: Light grain and lemon citius on the nose.
Taste: Light maliness with smooth mango finish.
Moutfield: Light-medium bodied.
Overall: A great all around session beer, perfect for the beach.

Vice IPA

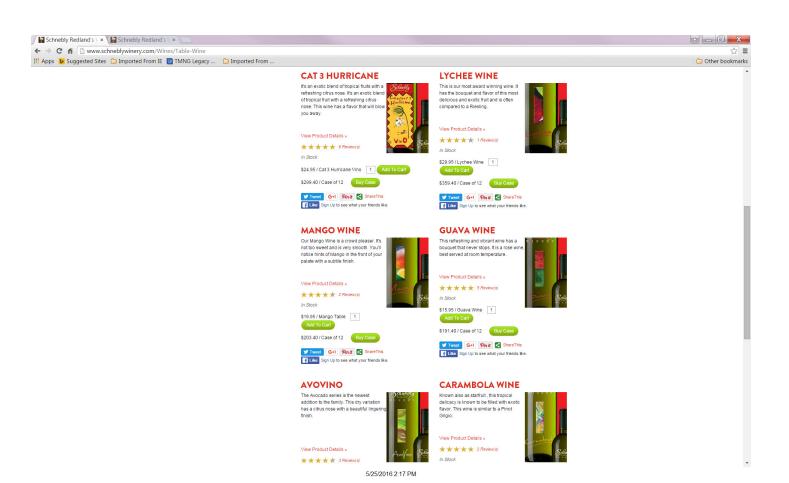
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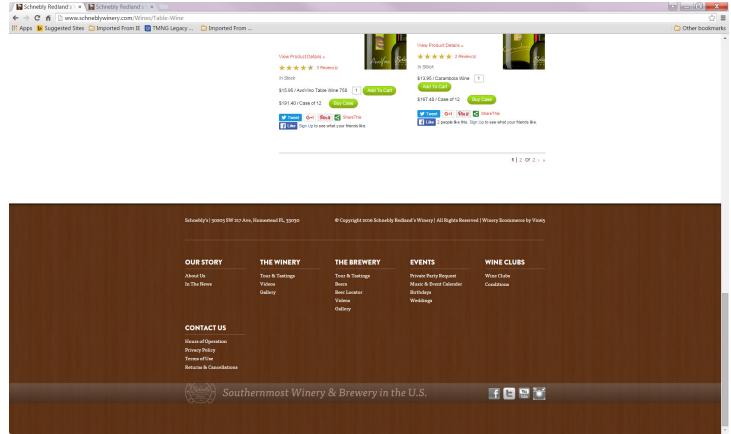


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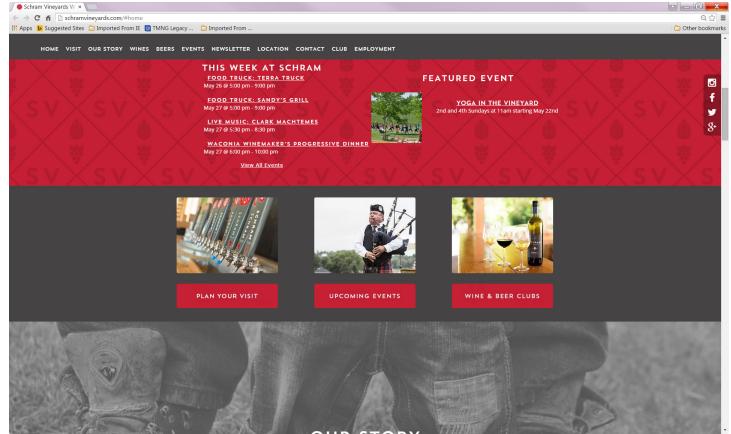




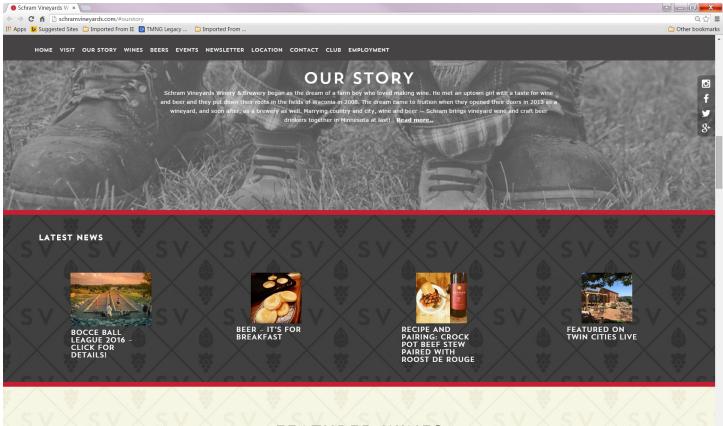
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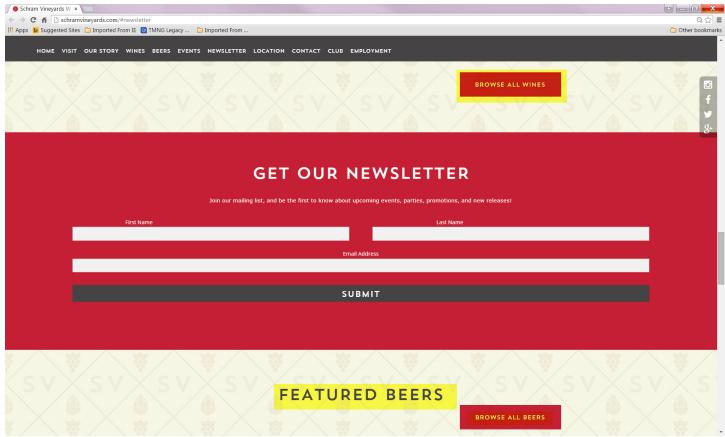


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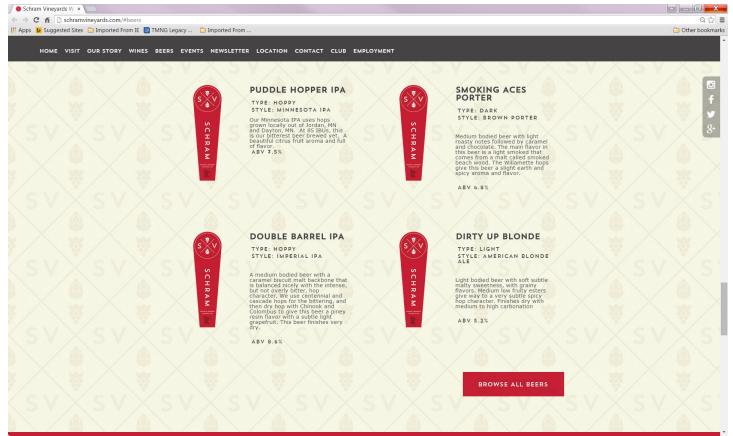
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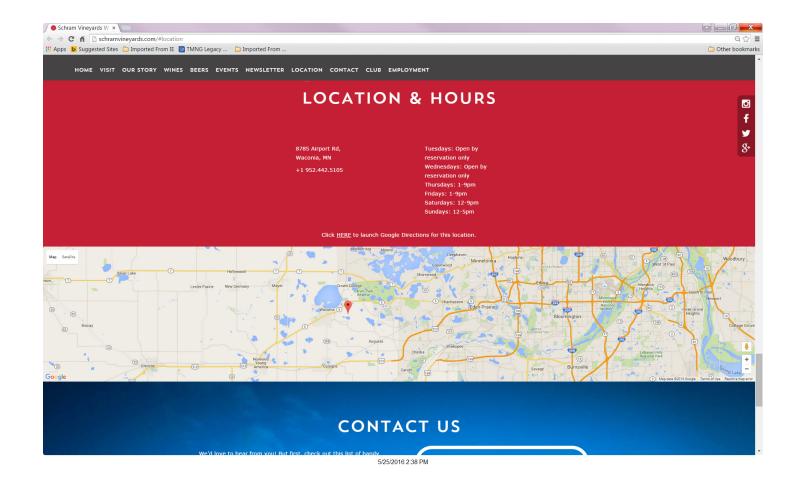
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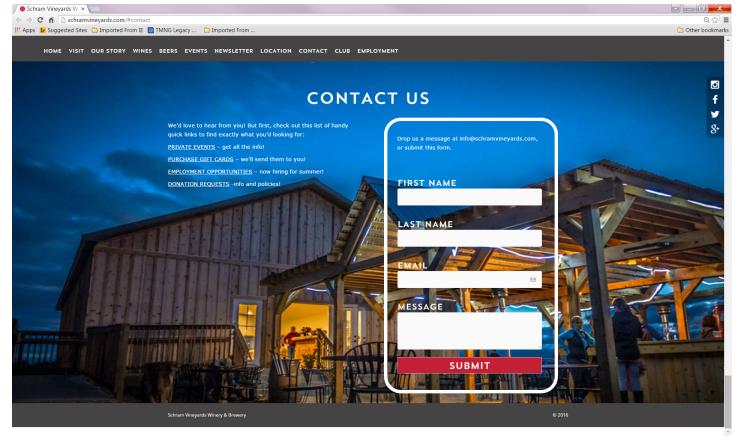


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Our Wines

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# Wines

Apple Extra Dry
Apple Picnic Wine

All Products

Maple Demi-Sec

Maple Extra Dry

Maple Storm

Pear extra dry Pear subLime

Pom subLime

Spirits
Absinthe Verte

Applejack

Knotted Maple Pear Brandy

Other Products >

## Visit Us



## Our Wines

Maine's apples and maple syrup are well known for excellent quality and taste. Tree Spirits founder Bruce Olson experimented with apple and maple wines for years prior to starting Tree Spirits. He chose to make sparkling wines because they are fun to drink.

Our Apple and Pear extra dry sparkling wines are not sweet. In fact, they are a lot like prosecco. The Maple demisec is sweeter with a subtle maple taste. Like champagne, Tree Spirits sparkling wines should be served cold.

We also make a still wine, Apple Picnic, which is great with fish, chicken, pork and cheese; Maple Storm, a port-like blend of our maple wine and Knotted Maple spirits; and, two subLimes — Pear and Pomegranate to drink by themselves or as a sangria base with wine, sparkling or still.



The <u>Apple Farm</u> in Fairfield supplies us with the cider used to make our pear and apple wines. Their apple cider is made from Macintosh apples combined with a mix of false season varietals such as Permain, Golden Russet and Northern Spy, Macs have a well-balanced flavor profile, both sweet and tart with a hint of bitter. The late apples, sweetened by the frost, add their own complex set of flavors. The cider produced at The Apple Farm doesn't contain preservatives and we think it? but best around.

We get our syrup at the  $\underline{Bacon Farm}$  in Sidney. It's a diversified, family-owned farm and from late winter to early spring their sugar house is filled with the smell of boiling maple sap.

At Tree Spirits we know the people who grow the fruit, press the cider, and tap the trees for our wines. Maine agriculture is experiencing a renaissance driven by the local food movement. We believe this change has just begun and Tree Spirits hopes to grow along with it. Our sparkling wines are the best local alternative to champagne. The judges at the 2011 San Francisco International Wine Competition awarded a double gold medal in the Fruit Wine category to our Apple extra dry and a silver medal to our Maple demi-sec. These awards are proof that we aren't alone in our belief that you can serve Tree Spirits sparkling wines with hors d'oeuvres, for dinner, at birthday celebrations and weddings with confidence.

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Website by <u>Ben Greeley</u> Label Design by <u>Lisa Oakes</u>

http://treespiritsofmaine.com/product/

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To: 3 BADGE BEVERAGE CORPORATION (dranit@smlaw.com)

Subject: U.S. TRADEMARK APPLICATION NO. 86549026 - 3 BADGE BEVERAGE CORPORATION - 8443 -

Request for Reconsideration Denied - Return to TTAB

**Sent:** 5/25/2016 3:48:43 PM

Sent As: ECOM112@USPTO.GOV

**Attachments:** 

# UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE (USPTO)

# U.S. TRADEMARK APPLICATION

USPTO OFFICE ACTION (OFFICIAL LETTER) HAS ISSUED ON 5/25/2016 FOR U.S. APPLICATION SERIAL NO. 86549026

Please follow the instructions below:

(1) TO READ THE LETTER: Click on this link or go to http://tsdr.uspto.gov, enter the U.S. application serial number, and click on "Documents."

The Office action may not be immediately viewable, to allow for necessary system updates of the application, but will be available within 24 hours of this e-mail notification.

(2) **TIMELY RESPONSE IS REQUIRED:** Please carefully review the Office action to determine (1) how to respond, and (2) the applicable response time period. Your response deadline will be calculated from 5/25/2016 (or sooner if specified in the Office action). For information regarding response time periods, see <a href="http://www.uspto.gov/trademarks/process/status/responsetime.jsp">http://www.uspto.gov/trademarks/process/status/responsetime.jsp</a>.

**Do NOT hit "Reply" to this e-mail notification, or otherwise e-mail your response** because the USPTO does NOT accept e-mails as responses to Office actions. Instead, the USPTO recommends that you respond online using the Trademark Electronic Application System (TEAS) response form located at <a href="http://www.uspto.gov/trademarks/teas/response\_forms.jsp">http://www.uspto.gov/trademarks/teas/response\_forms.jsp</a>.

(3) **QUESTIONS:** For questions about the contents of the Office action itself, please contact the assigned trademark examining attorney. For *technical* assistance in accessing or viewing the Office action in the Trademark Status and Document Retrieval (TSDR) system, please e-mail TSDR@uspto.gov.

# **WARNING**

Failure to file the required response by the applicable response deadline will result in the ABANDONMENT of your application. For more information regarding abandonment, see <a href="http://www.uspto.gov/trademarks/basics/abandon.jsp">http://www.uspto.gov/trademarks/basics/abandon.jsp</a>.

**PRIVATE COMPANY SOLICITATIONS REGARDING YOUR APPLICATION:** Private companies **not** associated with the USPTO are using information provided in trademark applications to mail or e-mail trademark-related solicitations. These companies often use names that closely resemble the USPTO and their solicitations may look like an official government document. Many solicitations require that you pay "fees."

Please carefully review all correspondence you receive regarding this application to make sure that you are responding to an official document from the USPTO rather than a private company solicitation. All official USPTO correspondence will be mailed only from the "United States Patent and Trademark Office" in Alexandria, VA; or sent by e-mail from the domain "@uspto.gov." For more information on how to handle private company solicitations, see <a href="http://www.uspto.gov/trademarks/solicitation\_warnings.jsp">http://www.uspto.gov/trademarks/solicitation\_warnings.jsp</a>.